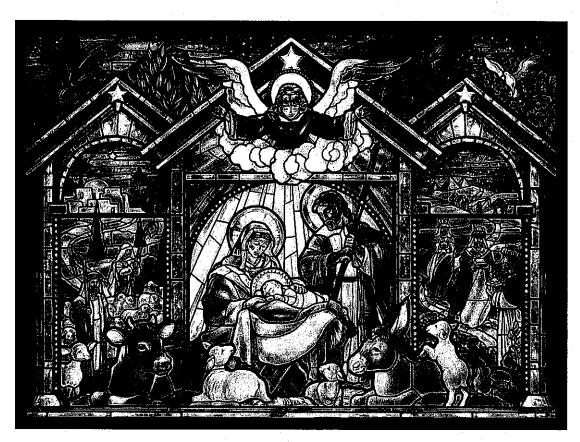
December 24, 2025 The Nativity of Our Lord 7:00pm

PRELUDE

Long Ago in Bethlehem
From three Moravian carols

C.K.Offer, arr. Phyllis Tate Elinor Tuhy, soloist



CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

Many ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and then formed man and woman in his own image; long after the great flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant; twenty-one centuries from the time the promise was given to Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt and Miriam danced in freedom; eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the judges; one thousand years from the anointing of David as king, in fulfillment of the times and years and months and days discerned by the prophets; in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome; the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus; while the whole world enjoyed a span of peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit and nine months of growth in the womb of his mother—now in our own times is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, God made flesh.

- P In this time celebration we remember that God loves you, all the time.
- C And all the time, God loves you.

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.
- C Amen.
- P Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

.Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Reconciling God,
- We yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair.
 We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace.
 We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear.
 We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news.
 Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation.
 Amen.
- P God's grace upon grace flows over you.

 H Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.

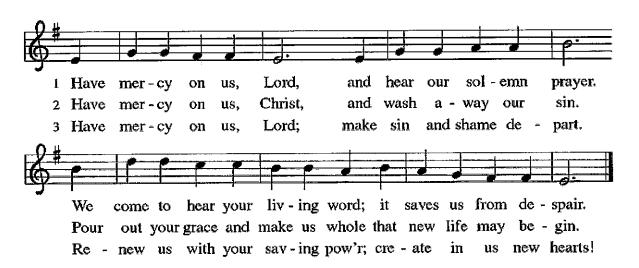
 Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!
- C Amen.



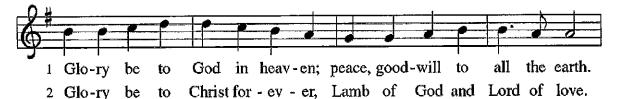
GREETING

- The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, P and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- And also with you. C

KYRIE



HYMN OF PRAISE



- now ac-claim you; Lord a lone, to you we call;
- 3 Ho-ly One we



all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Might-y God of of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a-bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. save us; now you reign at God's right hand. on the cross you died to in the Fa-ther's splen-dor bright. Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it,



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. 4For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace

for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: PSALM 96

¹Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

²Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

³Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

6Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

⁷Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

8Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

⁹Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

12Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

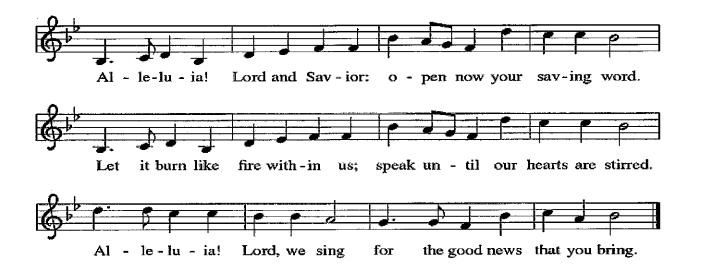
SECOND LESSON: Titus 2:11-14

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, 13while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. 14He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke, the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

14"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and

pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

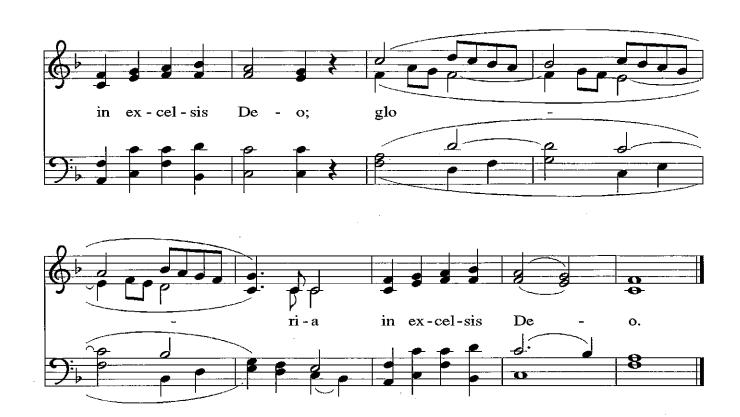
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor Tara Magoon





NICENE CREED

- A Let us confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed
- C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need

A brief silence.

Gathering God, you bring your people from every corner of the earth together before the manger that you have made a throne. Unite the church in love as we rejoice in the news of your coming. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**.

Creating God, you brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Join our voices with the roaring seas, the exulting fields, and the trees of the forest singing for joy on this holy night. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Transforming God, the world trembles amid violence and war. Empower our hands, feet, and hearts with your Spirit to shatter the rod of the oppressor and turn swords into plowshares. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Shepherding God, you lead us to your love in the face of our neighbor. Send us into the world to find your Word made flesh in one another, especially those who are sick or struggling Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**.

Nurturing God, you dwell with us in humble places. Sustain housing and clothing ministries in this community, that all find shelter and warmth. We pray especially for youth seeking safety and care. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Abiding God, you remain at the side of all the departed. Grant all who mourn hope in the resurrection and peace in Christ Jesus. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**.

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always
- C and also with you
- P Let us share God's peace

All share a sign of peace and reconciliation.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Thank you so much for your support of Grace ministry through your worship.

If you wish to make a donation to Grace, you can follow this link www.glcde.org or scan the QR code to make a donation on our website through the "GIVE" button in the upper right corner. You can also make a donation by placing your gift in our offering plates located inside both sanctuary doors.



ANTHEM

O Holy Night

Adams/DeCesare

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining; it is the night of the dear Savior's birth; Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn; Fall on your knees, oh, hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Truly he taught us to love one another, His law is love, and His Gospel is Peace.

Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother, and in His name all oppression shall cease.

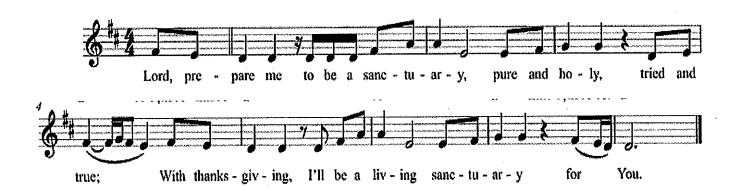
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise His Holy name.

Christ is the Lord, then ever, ever praise we, His pow'r and glory ever more proclaim, His pow'r and glory ever more proclaim.

Please stand as you are able

OFFERTORY

Sanctuary



OFFERTORY PRAYER

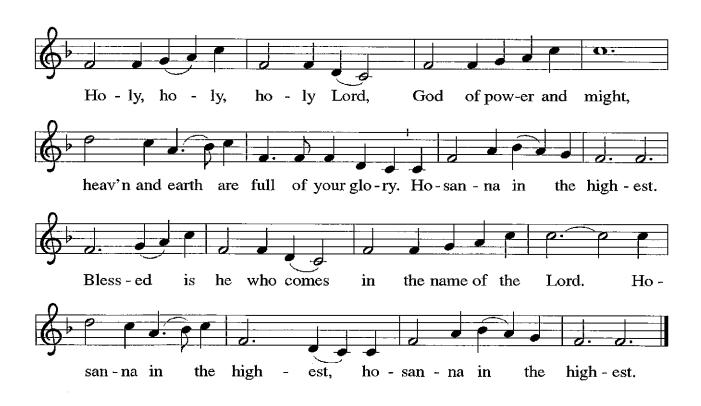
- A God of glory,
 great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow.
 Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.
- C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

 In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

 And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

- P Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.
- C Come Lord Jesus.
- P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
 Come among us. Bless this meal.
 May your Word take flesh in us.
 Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.
 Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- C Come, Holy Spirit.
- P All praise and glory are yours. Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, on God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus.
All are welcome at the table of our Lord.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

Communion will be received at the head of the Sanctuary. Starting with the section closest to the sound room and worshippers may make their way to Pastor at the head of the Sanctuary and receive the communion elements. Elements at worship are red wine and white grape juice.

All bread is gluten-free.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMNS

Once In David's Royal City

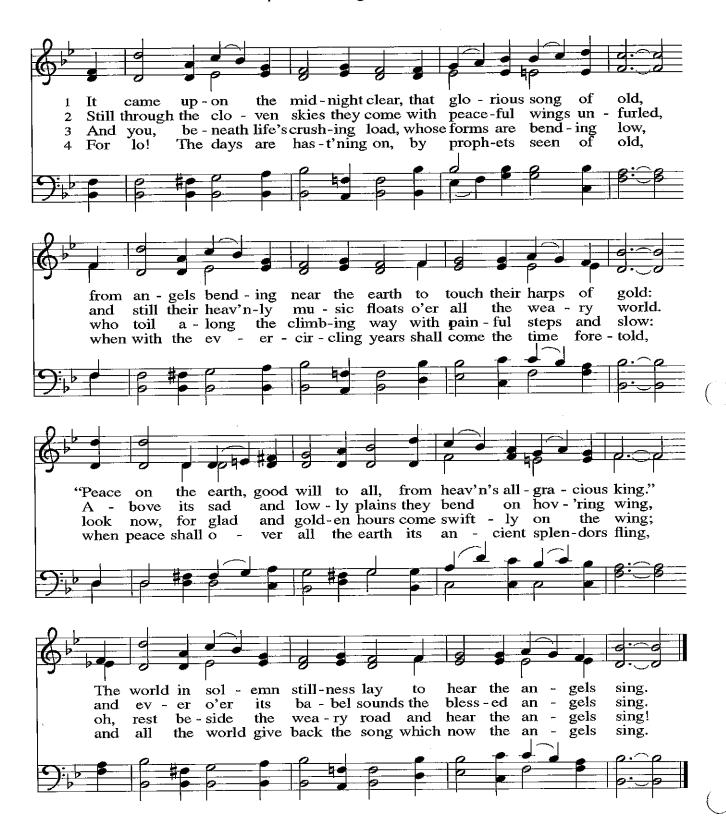


ELW 269

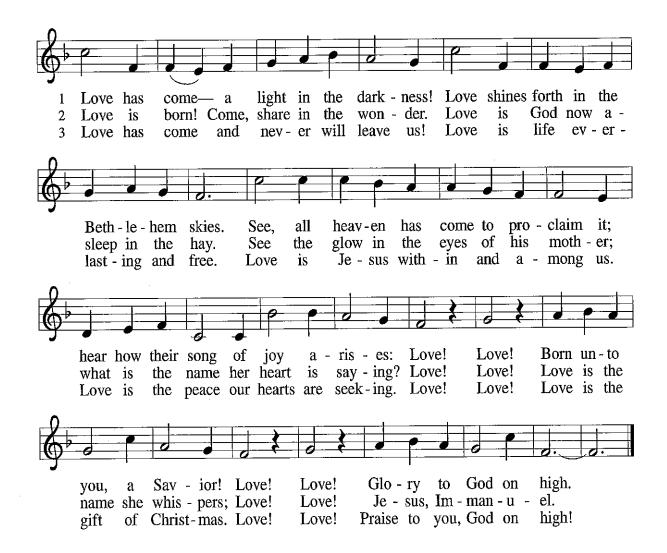
What Child Is This ELW 275



It Came Upon A Midnight Clear ELW 282



Love Has Come ELW 292



COMMUNION MEDITATION

What Child Is This, and Joy to the World

Abhi Yelampalli, cello Shriman, snare drum

Please stand as you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.

 May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence.

 Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.
- C Amen.



THE GOSPEL OF THE INCARNATE FROM JOHN 1

The pastor lights a candle which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world of whom John's gospel speaks.

- P In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- C He was with God in the beginning.

The Assisting minister lights their candle from the pastor.

- P Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.
- C In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.
- P The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

This light is shared with the congregation to light their candles. The lighted candle remains upright, but others tilt to receive the light of Christ.



BLESSING

- P The triune God,
 glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One,
 abiding Comforter, + bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.
- C Amen.



DISMISSAL

- A Glory to God in the highest!
- C And peace to God's people on earth!
- A Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.
- C Thanks be to God.



Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Jean Warren Usher: Julie Auger, John Auger Reader: Abhi Yelampalli Sound: Aman Yelampalli Streamer: Paul Warren

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The people of Grace Lutheran Church, Ministers

The Rev. Tara Magoon, Pastor Jordan Irazabal, Director of Music Susan Wells Allen, Office Manager Louis Jones, Custodian